



Dental program provides services

Dental hygiene program benefits students and public by providing affordable dental care. The clinic at TJC offers dental services for patients in the Pirtle Technology building.

Story on page 3

Apache men's basketball team improves as the season continues. Region XIV continues to be a very wide-open and competitive conference. All nine spots for the regional tournament in March are up for grabs.

Story on page 8

Men's basketball team makes improvements



The APACHE POW WOW

THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE SINCE 1927

www.tjcnewspaper.com

Tyler, Texas

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2011

VOL. 77 NO. 2

Legislative Coverage: Part 1

Budget Emergency

TJC plans for changes due to legislative cuts

By Haley Smith
Managing Editor

Proposed state budget cuts are drastically transforming the Tyler Junior College landscape.

"If those cuts come to be, I think it will affect every individual who has any stake in the college," TJC president Dr. Mike Metke said. "In one way or another it has to affect how we fulfill our mission. It has to affect the programs and services, and it has to affect student cost."

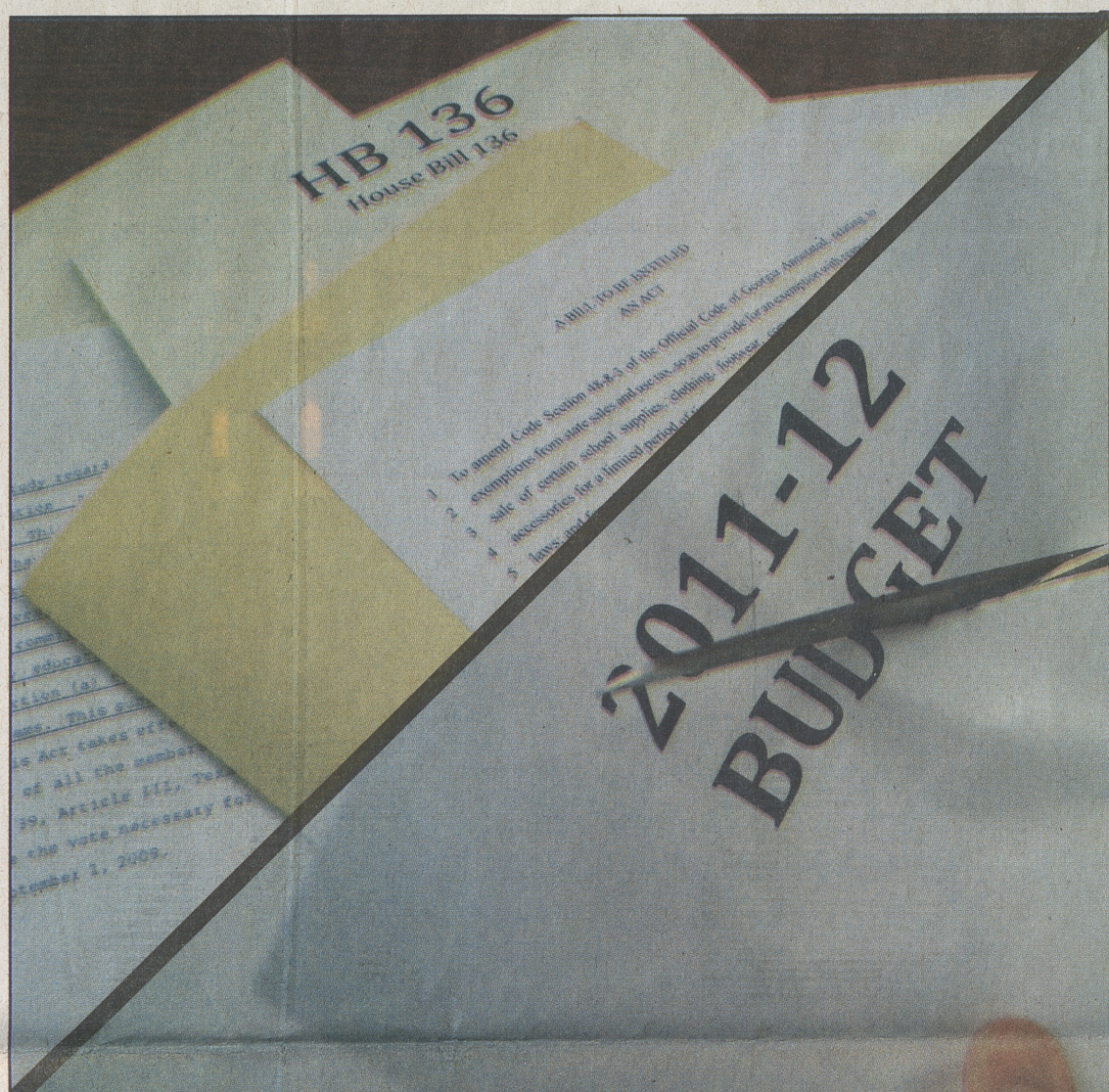
Texas is facing a two-year budget shortfall that ranges from cuts of at least \$15 billion up to \$27 billion. These statewide cuts will affect most programs including higher education.

"We're very early in the process to watch what's happening, but it's going to affect every state culture in a community college and the communities that we serve," Chief Financial Officer and Vice President of Business Affairs Sarah Van Cleef said.

With the way the budget currently looks, TJC could be facing up to \$5 million in state budget cuts. According to Metke, there is no way the college could raise tuition and fees enough to cover the \$4 to \$5 million dollars in cuts.

"I don't know what that would be per student but I don't know if even doubling the cost per student would cover that," Metke said. "It's like nothing any of us have ever seen. I've never in my...probably close to 40 years in higher education, I have never seen anything like this."

— see BUDGET page 12 —



Higher education's 'six drop rule' may change with House Bill 136

By Caylee Stamps
Staff Writer

The Texas Legislature is currently proposing a bill that will change the number of classes a student is allowed to drop during college.

Currently students may only drop six courses during their college career. Anything exceeding that remains on the student's GPA. House Bill 136 authored by State Rep. Mark Shelton will take a look at amending Senate Bill 1231.

House Bill 136 states, "The governing board of an institution of higher education may adopt a policy that limits the number of courses a student is permitted to drop."

In Shelton's amendment, each college will be able to adopt their own drop policy. Vincent Nguyen, director of

Student Life at Tyler Junior College, supports a change in the current law.

"The six-drop rule (Senate Bill 1231) limits the student from reaching their best potential. I feel they need to fail a few times and learn from their own mistakes in order to do better next time. It is important for the student to explore those avenues and if we put a restriction on that then how can we see those students succeed?"

Some Tyler Junior College students such as Katie Jones can see the law's purpose of molding students for a brighter future.

"It will cause the student to think about the classes that

they take and to really try in the course. We can't just drop classes left and right now; we have to think about our choices, which is making for more responsible students and that much closer to our degree," Jones said.

Butch Hayes, Tyler Junior College Provost, who feels hot and cold towards the current law, explained why it was originally passed.

— see BILL page 5 —

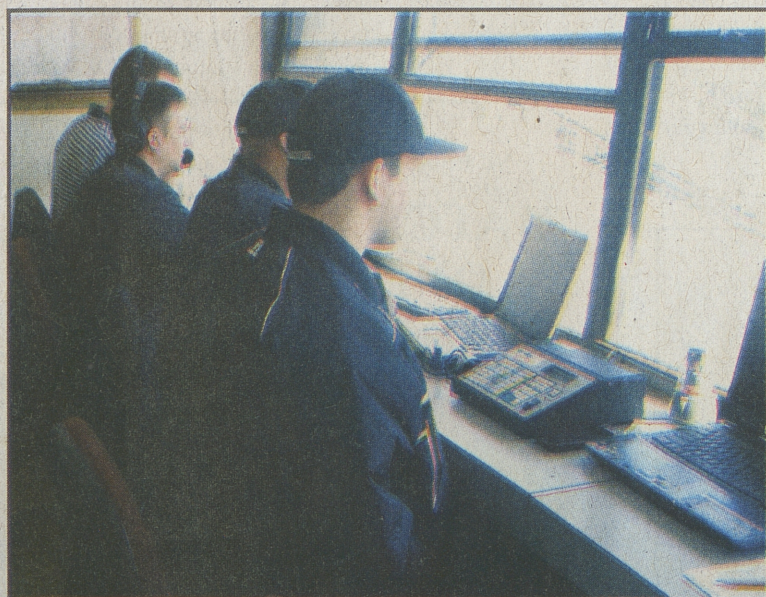


Photo by Jarah Wright

SPORTS TALK: During the TJC vs. Cedar Valley Community College baseball game, former TJC baseball coach Jon Groth and Assistant Athletic Director Chuck Smith webcast the game over the Apache Athletics website while student managers update the live stat software and the scoreboard at Mike Carter Field.

Broadcasting to the masses

TJC athletic department offers sports webcasting for games

By Jarah Wright
Associate Editor

In an age of new technology, the Tyler Junior College athletic department is keeping up with the times by offering webcasts of select games and live stats for the baseball games.

The idea for webcasting began in 2009 but it wasn't until the District Tournament in McKinney that it began to look like a reality.

"I went to the baseball District Tournament in McKinney, Texas," said Assistant Athletic Director Chuck Smith. "I met Terry who runs Sportsgram.net. He showed me how he runs the site and how easy it was. That gave us the tools to begin webcasting."

The first TJC webcast was Aug.

23, 2009. They are able to broadcast using just an Internet card, soundboard and laptop.

"It was a learning process," said Smith. "It took time to learn all of the player's names and the terminology associated with each sport."

The webcasts require preparation and careful attention to detail. The team is in the middle of baseball season and broadcasts many of the home games.

"I get to the ballpark a few hours before the game and get interviews from both the TJC coaches as well as the visiting coaches," said former baseball coach Jon Groth who provides the play-by-play for listeners.

"I ask them how the team has been playing, get their perspective and any information that might be interesting for the listeners."

Approximately 30 minutes before the game, Smith and Groth begin their broadcast. They typically describe the scene for the listeners such as the weather conditions or which uniforms the teams are wearing. They also play coach interviews and describe key matchups that will take place.

Even though the webcasting team is prepared, game days are hectic.

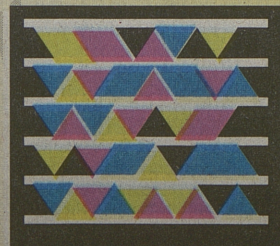
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THE APACHE POW WOW

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WEB EXCLUSIVE:

Concealed Handguns on Campus. Proposed bill allows anyone of age to carry a concealed handgun. What students and faculty think.

| www.tjcnewspaper.com

column

A Little Too Much Love... Expression in public, can be disturbing



By Joshua Mumphrey
Editor-in-Chief

I'm all about feeling the love but after taking a look around at a few of my fellow college students, love isn't exactly the word that comes to mind...

To tell the truth, I've been utterly grossed out and not just myself, but also other students passing through. No one wants their daily course load to include some wacked out, modern-day version of intro to human anatomy. That's one class I'm sure many didn't sign up for.

This new love bug we have floating around campus has made students get out-right physical. The face-sucking, body grinding, in your face kind of promiscuity, is becoming a daily routine.

With the rising numbers of promiscuous behavior being witnessed almost any and everywhere, who knows what we will start seeing next.

Believe it or not being promiscuous in a public place is unappreciated and darn right disturbing. If it's really that serious, go home or get a room!

I honestly don't know what some students are thinking these days. What sort of thrill does one get exposing themselves to others openly without any kind of hesitation or embarrassment? Have we lost all sense of decency? What about our dignity? Isn't it dangling dangerously close to the edge?

I know times are a lot different and we sure aren't leaving it to beaver, but our morals and values aren't something to disregard just because it seems old fashioned.

Being respected and respectful doesn't ever go out of style regardless how many years pass. It's something we all

aren't born with but it is something we can develop if we try hard enough.

We have to educate ourselves in what's right and take the time out to actually examine our lifestyles. Consider asking yourself these questions... Do my actions affect others? Is this really beneficial in the long run? Can this become a problem in the future? What sort of path am I on right now and where will I ultimately end up?

These are tough questions for many of us, but they all need to be answered eventually. We all have the power to change with the world around us, but we also have the common sense to know the difference between right and wrong.

The feeling of freedom and expression of love, I'm sure is a wonderful emotion to share, but I advise you to consider your environment first before having your own public make out session between classes.

Remember, people are watching...

TJCComments

We care what you think...

Posted February 14, 2011

Letter To The Editor: TOXIC TANNING...

It is true that prolonged over exposure can increase your risk of developing skin cancer later in life. At the other extreme complete sun avoidance leads to vitamin D deficiency, which is linked to a laundry list of health problems. Moderation is the key. If you are going to use a tanning bed then make sure you follow a few simple rules. Start out on the smallest time possible, even if it is only 3 minutes. Build your time up slowly, increasing your tanning time in 1 minute increments. Don't go more often than once every two days. If your skin is still red more than 24 hours later then you were in for too long and you need to reduce your time. So you need to get your skin used to the UV exposure and build up your tolerance levels, that's why you start small and build up slowly. You also need to give your skin time to replenish between sessions so don't go more often than once every two days. The main point is to avoid sunburn, so if you are still red more than 24 hours later then you need to reduce your time.

Posted Online February 19, 2011

Response to Baha'i Faith Club...

If their presentation was anything like this article, then I can understand the board's confusion - no mention is made here of what exactly a Baha'i is. The Baha'i Faith is a fully-fledged Abrahamic world religion which has existed for over a century and a half and has followers in every corner of the globe. Baha'is are dedicated to serving their community and fostering unity. Tyler Junior College is very fortunate to have Baha'is on campus and hopefully the board will recognize this at tomorrow's meeting.

What student's think... on campus.

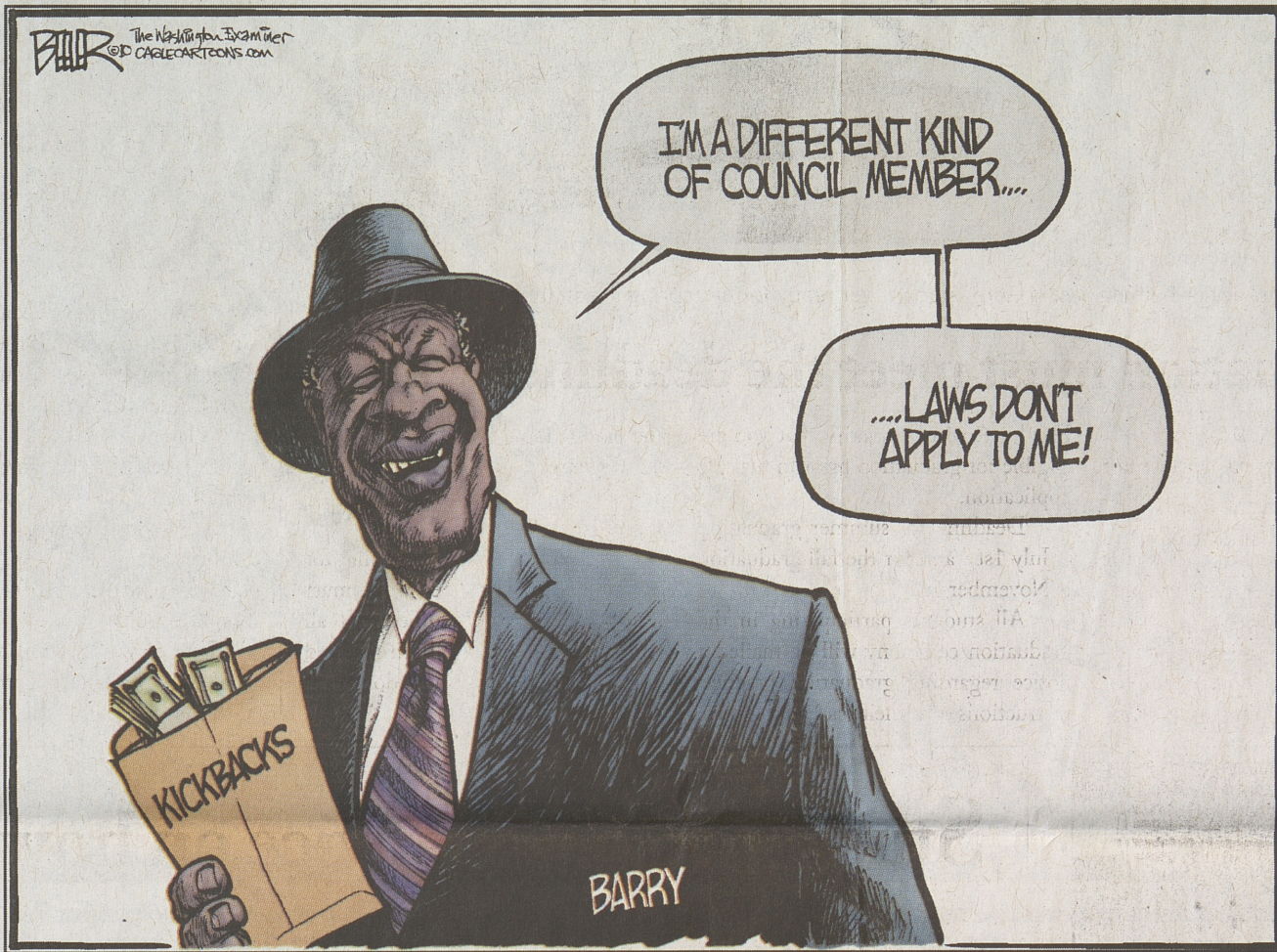
Response of week 2 | Public exposure : "Sexual Behavior"



FRESHMAN

Keep your sexual behavior to yourself and in the bedroom. It's not supposed to be on campus. It's disgusting."

- Caitlin Roger



editorial

Fools Rush In: "The Modern-day Relationship"

College students don't look at romance as a lengthy courtship. Students don't seem to realize the risks associated with the quick and disregarded celibacy in today's modern relationship. It can lead to unplanned pregnancies that can put a large hold on future plans, and lead to life shattering diseases and staggering emotional distress.

Shows like "Sixteen and Pregnant" or "Teen Mom" are prime examples of how sexual irresponsibility and courtless relationships lead to more than one-night stands. Students who are working towards starting adult lives and getting an education to better their future can suddenly see all that hard work ultimately shattered or become more complicated because of unplanned pregnancy. It's unbelievably demanding raising a child, but near impossible taking care of a baby while juggling school and work. Unplanned pregnancies, especially with a partner who was barely known, can lead to patched-up marriages that in the long run could result in disappointments.

Promiscuous relationships can also have life-affecting consequences. Being with partners that aren't well known and not using contraceptives can result in sexually transmitted diseases. Most students don't seem to realize how common STDs are, and they seem to think that it will never happen to them. No one is immune from STDs. They can affect everyone. Not only will the person contracting the STD be hurt, but also their family and any future romance could be permanently put on hold. Although they can be extremely deadly and ruin lives, they are 100 percent preventable.

Moving too fast in a relationship can also result in emotional problems. The heart, figuratively speaking, is fragile, and moving from partner to partner can have grim consequences on the psyche. Many students connect emotionally with their partners when they're in a relationship, but if one of those partners isn't serious or they move too fast, there can be negative emotional consequences. In most cases the emotional effects of relationships have a bigger impression than the physical effects and everyone can get hurt from moving too fast.

It seems that the magic and romance that used to be in re-

lationships is no longer expected. Most of the time there is no courting or dating. Students need to realize that physical rela-

"Just because the students are now in college and have much more freedom, they still need to be careful with whom they are around and how they handle themselves."

tionships can have many consequences and the modern romances in today's time, even though they are popular, should be taken with much caution. Just because the students are now in college and have much more freedom, they still need to be careful with whom they are around and how they handle themselves. Even if love is in the air, it should be taken with extreme carefulness because one careless decision can lead to a lifetime of doubt and hurt.

COMMENT OF THE WEEK

Posted February 19, 2011
Response To: What Was Valentines Day To You?

"I liked valentines day, I just think it is a bit overrated. I've noticed everyone seems a little more affectionate than normal though. It's not just for lovers, people should give their friend a flower or just call their mother and remind her she's amazing."

- Amanda Middlebrook

VIEWpoint

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POLL QUESTION

DO YOU THINK STUDENTS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO SHOW THEIR AFFECTION FOR ONE ANOTHER IN A PUBLIC PLACE?

YES
NO

REPLY TO THIS QUESTION AT:
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RESULTS OF PREVIOUS POLL

DO YOU THINK STUDENT LOANS ARE A GOOD IDEA??

YES 100% (2)
NO 0% (0)

TO REVIEW THE RESULTS OF THIS QUESTION,
GO TO: WWW.TJCNEWSPAPER.COM

The APACHE Pow Wow

THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE SINCE 1927

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Graduating this Spring

News Briefs

CAMPUS

TJC INTER- PRETER TRAINING PROGRAM

TJC ITP presents Tall Tales with Kent Kennedy and Signing with the Stars on Saturday, March 19, 2011 at the TJC Roger's Student Center. The Second Annual Open House will run from 4:30-6:00p.m. There will be exhibit booths and lab tours. Free admission to the booths and tours.

Tickets for the dinner are \$25 in advance. You can also purchase a full table of 8 for \$175.

For more information contact Rhonda McKinzie: rmck@tjc.edu.

EAST TEXAS DEAF GAME DAY

On Saturday, March 26, 2011 at the TJC Ornelas Health and Physical Education Center (OHPE).

Games set will include: Team Tournament-Blind Volleyball from 10-3 p.m., Individual table games tournament, UNO-10AM ChickenFoot-11:30AM Spoons- 1:00PM

For more information and entries contact Patrick Grona at pgron5@tjc.edu



Photo by Stacey Gonzalez

ACADEMIC ADVISING: Silvana Vierkant is a TJC Academic Advisor helping Jessie Gore, student get ready for her spring graduation.

Students ready for graduation must meet the deadline Apr. 1

By Stacey Gonzalez
News Editor

Graduation for Spring 2011 is almost here, but students must remember that graduation is not an automatic step it is also part of a student's job to make sure they are set and ready to move on. Deadline for students to make sure they are set for this spring

graduation is April 1, 2011.

Each student is responsible for checking with the cashier's office to pay any outstanding charges on their account prior to graduation. It is the responsibility of each student to apply for the appropriate degree or certificate for which he/ she is eligible for on or before the Application Deadlines. Please check with your Academic of

Faculty Advisor to verify that you are eligible for graduation prior to making application.

Deadline for summer graduation is July 1st and for the fall graduation is November 1st.

All students participating in the graduation ceremony will be mailed a notice regarding graduation practice, instructions for their cap and gown,

and graduation invitations. Reminder, the Registrar's office will contact you by your TJC email and your mailing address that is on file.

Students that are applying for graduation with transfer work must verify the Registrar's Office that all official transcripts have been received prior to applying for graduation.

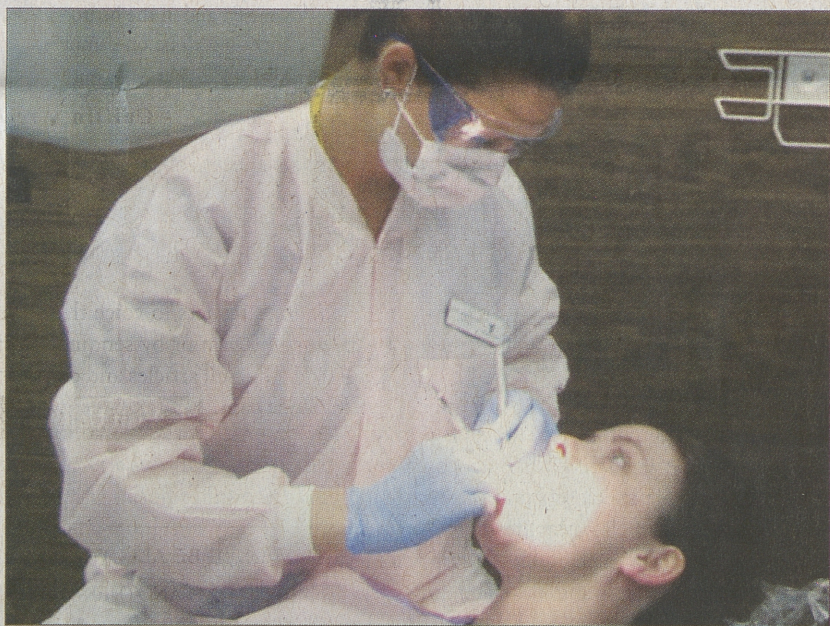


Photo by Stacey Gonzalez

CLEANING THE TEETH: Candice Sowell practices dental cleansing with Lindsey Thiemet.

Dental services help save money

By Stacey Gonzalez
News Editor

Tyler Junior College offers a program that benefits students and public by providing affordable dental care.

The dental hygiene program has been in operation since 1969. Service includes dental cleaning, fluoride treatment, X rays, oral examination, and scaling.

"Service is provided, all combined for \$20 per semester," said Department Chair of dental hygiene Carrie Hobbs.

Enrollment changes in response to the job market in the area.

"Many of our graduates go outside the Tyler area to get jobs, and many of our graduates come from outside the Tyler area to get jobs, most of our students are from other areas, we have a few that want to have employment here in Tyler, said Hobbs. The job market can be tight, and in a couple of years it will have a flow and then in a couple of years it will be that there are several jobs available, its always been like that since I can

remember."

The clinic at TJC offering dental services for patients is located north of the Pirtle Technology building, next to the new planetarium it is open for students and public. In order to schedule an appointment they must call the clinic at 903-510-2342. From that point they will be contacted by a student to book the patients visit and accommodate a schedule.

"This is my first time here, my wife has been coming here for 2 years now so I decided to come and try out their services, the people are very friendly and that's what makes me feel more comfortable, it makes me feel as if I was at home but really the main reason I'm here is to be part of this students education and also to save a lot of money," said Ed Watkins, a patient for the dental clinic on campus.

According to Candice Sowell, dental hygiene student, patients who usually get helped are understandable in the process of assistance.

— see DENTAL page 11 —

Students receive advice on how to stay safe this spring break

By Howard Slacum
Staff Writer

This March, some Tyler Junior College spring break travelers may become some of the thousands of college students who are assaulted, raped, injured, victimized by theft or arrested every year.

"I don't really have any concerns for myself," said TJC sophomore Michael Whitehead.

TJC officials feel differently. "We do worry about them being victimized or hurt," said Executive Director of Campus Safety Dr. Tom Johnson.

"With our college-age students, many of them think it's a right of passage," said Director of Campus Safety Randy Melton. "It's what they should do, it's expected out of them; that's what all of their friends do is [go] to South Texas and just have a party with lots of alcoholic beverages."

Alcohol companies have spent years and millions of dollars to associate parties with alcohol. Pop-culture such as MTV's broadcasting live from popular spring break destinations celebrates spring break as being a week of partying for college students.

Annually, alcohol is involved in hundreds of thousands of incidents involving college students. The study found that in 2001, among full-time four-year college students, 97,000 (2 percent) were victims of alcohol-related sexual assault, 599,000 (10.5 percent) were injured because of drinking and 696,000 (12 percent) were hit or assaulted by another drinking college student.

A 2007 study published in the "Journal of Studies on Alco-



Photo by Ambra Phillips

GETTING WASTED: Alcohol is involved annually in thousands of accidents, students are advised to take safety precautions.

hol & Drugs" shows a correlation between alcohol use and with whom students spend spring break.

"Students who vacationed with friends during Spring Break dramatically increased their alcohol use. In contrast, students who stayed home or vacationed with parents during spring break were at low risk for excessive alcohol use," the study's authors concluded.

Staying home or vacationing with parents may not appeal to those who will be engaging in sexual activity, but the 2009 study showed that mixing alcohol with sex resulted in 474,000 students having unprotected sex.

Alcohol-related incidents are only one of numerous risks students face while traveling during spring break.

"One of the big ones that's overlooked is theft," said Johnson. "Let's say that we've got a group and we're going somewhere. People all of a sudden

ACCIDENTS

Statistics

According to a 2009 study published in the "Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs," 1,825 college students, ages 18 to 24, died in alcohol-related incidents.

Travel

According to the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs website, over 100,000 American Spring Breakers travel to Mexico

know that you're not there and will break into your rooms

Last weekend, six students competed in the Spring Texas Intercollegiate Forensic Association's state championship. A list of the winners can be found at tjcnwspaper.com.

see WASTED page 11



Photo by Reginald White

STUDYING FOR CLASS: Students study for their online classes on the second floor of the Vaughn Library.

Surfing the web: Online classes on the rise

By LaToni Thomas
Staff Writer

When asked why students take on-line courses, the answer is always flexibility.

"Based on what I learn, a lot of students take it for its convenience. You don't have to be in class at a certain time," said Ken Craver, director of Distance Education.

Distance learning is the fastest growing education source not only for students at Tyler Junior College, but for people all over the world. Distance Education, also known as Online courses, help students pick classes that are not offered at a specific time to fit their daily schedules.

"It's gone up fairly dramatic," said Craver. "Over half of our students take at least one distance education course per semester."

Most of the time, distance education affects the older demographic of the campus. Not everyone can be on

campus all day and it's a hassle trying to balance a full time job and be a college student.

"A face-to-face-class may not be available for them because they have children at home," said Craver. "If they work, they can access the course from anywhere and work on the course on their own time."

Some students cannot make it to campus on a daily basis because they live far away.

"Students that live a fair distance away, as in they may live in Van, an on-line course may be available for them so they can save some driving time," said Craver.

Distance education is run on a server called Blackboard. It is found under the Apache Access tab titled "Online Courses" which is ran by the blackboard system. While others find the website easy to navigate, not everyone has the same view on online courses. Online courses are not for everyone.

"I personally do not like online courses because I don't get the hands

on training I need," said Cindy Nguyen, a sophomore at TJC. "I'm constantly running up to my chemistry professor after class and I could just imagine the amount of stress I would have not getting help right then and there."

Some students are finding it difficult to work the setup under the Blackboard system. They simply just do not know where to begin. Sheree Webb, instructional designer of the Distance Education department, is constantly collaborating with professors to make sure that the site is easy to use.

"Some of the things I work on with the faculty is having a Start Here Module," said Webb. "This is so they know how the course is going to work. They are separated into modules and if you see module one, you know that you're going to start there first."

Distance education also offers classes known as a hybrid classes. Hybrid classes alternate between being in

— see ONLINE page 5 —

Students struggle to maintain course load

By Joshua Mumphrey
Editor-In-Chief

Having a sick relative or loved one is difficult. But when you're a college student, coping the best you know how, the pressure is more than one could imagine.

Claudia Garcia, a sophomore of Tyler Junior College, who cares for her 14-year-old brother, knows this feeling.

"Many years before I started college my brother Roberto got sick, at 9 months, after a day of playing in the water at Lake Palestine in 1998," said Garcia. "Since then he developed a severe medical condition which affected his motor skills, his internal organs and his general quality of life. It was hard on his body and even harder for us to see him so weak."

Garcia said her brother quickly developed symptoms similar to that of the common cold, but within a few weeks and after a trip to the doctor, his condition worsened.

"After only a short time, I remember my mother flying to a Dallas hospital with my brother. He was in a coma for many weeks," said Garcia. "It was a really tough situation when the doctors finally told my mother that they would have to disconnect him and that he probably wouldn't have a good life."

Garcia and her family were determined to see Roberto get better. They stuck by his side until he showed signs of slow recovery.

"After two months at the children's hospital, he was out of the coma, but seeing that he couldn't even hold his neck, it was so hard," said Garcia.

Roberto's road to recovery would be long and hard. He needed time to heal and to adjust. There were still concerns about his future health.

"Now his lungs are weak and he has a lot of bladder problems. He gets sick really easy this time of year, when the weather changes, due to a low immune system. We have to be really cautious about his health," said Garcia.

Garcia said it is hard to help care for her brother, keep her grades up, and that she would appreciate extra time on assignments or other accommodations.

"It's hard on my schooling when he's in the hospital because I have to often put off classes to translate for my mother during the day so she understands what the doctors are saying. It is always a really stressful time for me, but I don't have anywhere to turn for help or time on assignments."

Shelley Caraway, an Interim Dean at TJC, said that before a support service program can be implemented, there has to be a need and request made by a student seeking help.

"There are a lot of support services currently available on campus for students free of charge. We have a testing center. We also offer tutoring as well as counseling," said Caraway.

She added that students need to evaluate realistically how

— see COURSE page 6 —



Photo by Joshua Mumphrey

ORNELAS HALL: Outside Ornelas A, one of the newer dorms recently built at TJC.

Ornelas dorms has students talking

By Jamisha Robinson
Staff Writer

The newest dorm, Joseph Z. and Louise H. Ornelas Residential Complex, receives the highest demand for living.

The campus has nine dorm halls, Bateman, Claridge, Hudnall, Sledge, Holley, Lewis, Vaughn, West and Ornelas.

"When I first saw the dorms on campus during orientation, I was mostly impressed with the newest one, Ornelas, and I could not wait to move in," sophomore Keaira Wilkins said.

"The entire building [Ornelas], from the layout to the paint jobs, is extremely nice," said Residential Adviser Chelsea Smith. "I enjoy the atmosphere and the tenants are very respectable."

Each residential hall has 24-hour supervision and daily

activities. All the dorms have twin-sized beds, computer desks, closets and dressers, but Ornelas provides more space. The room and bathroom layout is new and designed for each roommate to have his or her own space.

"When getting my room, and meeting my roommate, we were both very impressed with how much space we were given, and how much privacy we were given," Wilkins said.

With this residential complex being the only co-ed hall on campus, security and restrictions are likely to be stricter on visitation and check-ins, but the same rules apply as they do in any other dorm. Visitation is from 8:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. as long as the guest is a TJC student with a valid school ID.

"A lot of people complain about the rules not being fair, because this is the newest dorm and the rules seem more strict-

er over here, but the same rules that apply in Ornelas also apply in all the other dorms," Smith said. "From visitation, check-in, to room checks, Ornelas doesn't get a break just because it's a new building."

Ornelas Hall A provides a small lobby, game room, computer station and deli.

"Ornelas is my favorite dorm hall, because it's the closest thing in looks and space to my apartment first semester," said freshman LaDarren Crenshaw. Although I don't have all the space to myself, I have enough and my roommate still has room to move around on his side". The game room and deli really come in handy as well."

According to the residential housing department, there are still a few rooms available in the complex hall.

Professional Programs help students shoot for the stars

By Jasmine Millican
Staff writer

The School of Professional & Technical Programs, formerly known as the school of Applied Studies, offers programs for those who plan to transfer to upper-level institutions or enter specific career fields.

"Our intent is to take students as far as they can go or as far as they'd like to go," the Dean of the School of Professional and Technical programs Dr. Clayton Allen said.

The biggest advantage in choosing a professional or technical program before a four

year university comes to those who know what field they'd like a career in. Two-year technical or professional degrees are also a good option for those who want a degree yet need to lessen the expense or time of a traditional college.

Tyler Junior Colleges offers 20 programs within the school of Professional and Technical Programs. Programs such as automotive technology, criminal justice, medical office assistant, paralegal, graphic design/photography and more. (For a full list see www.tjc.edu/proftech/)

According to academic advisor, Stephanie Arriola, many diverse groups are attracted to these programs.

"We've got all ranges. We have students who are coming directly from high school. We have returning students that are adult students, that have been in the workforce sometime and they realize that to get a promotion, to move up into a higher level within their agency or company, they need to have a degree of some kind," said Arriola.

With the demographics being so expansive, it shows that anyone can benefit from the courses offered.

"Even those with a bachelor's and master's or advanced degrees are coming back to learn a skill so that they can get a job," Allen said.

Some choose these programs to get ahead

in their chosen career path.

"I chose it because I knew I could train to work in my field while finishing school," said paralegal student Kathryn Young.

Many students are attracted to the idea of getting into the work field after two years.

"Honestly I think it's a great program. I never knew I could learn so much in two years," said Young, "It's very well rounded."

All the programs are designed to teach students skills needed to succeed on their particular job.

— see PROGRAMS page 5 —

BILL

continued from page 1

"The way we receive money through the state is called contact hour reimbursement," Dr. Hayes explained each class hour is worth a specific number of contact hours and the total number of hours all students are enrolled in are added up and the state then awards each institution funding based on that number. "The state is paying for part of the classroom instruction so they were trying to be watchful of how much they were paying for. They have started to put some limits on the number of hours a student can drop."

Jones feels students should do some investigating into courses before enrolling in a class, in order to prevent unnecessary dropping.

"Students should not be able to waste taxpayer dollars so easily," explained Jones, "We are already going through budget cuts. We just need to take responsibility and know what we are getting ourselves into, prior to taking the course. If you decided to take a class you need to do research prior instead of throwing yourself into it and if it does not work out just simply dropping it."

Nguyen agrees, but still asks for a little more wiggle-room in the law or to look at other possible solutions.

"We should have a restriction but it shouldn't be so tight that we are preventing a student from success," he said. "If a stu-

dent is having a trouble with a class and they have identified it, those students should have a right to drop those classes in order to salvage their grade. I think what's true with any Texas college student is that life is going to happen and if we are just going to put restrictions on those types of things it can keep them from achieving their goals. I think it the law is trying to pave a better path for students. This is just so subjective; it's a case-by-case deal. Regardless, there are many other facets that need to be looked at."

He suggests a fine for a course drop in order to pay the state back rather than simply forcing a student to take the failing grade onto their GPA and resulting in a loss of scholarship or chance at a four-year university.

Hayes, although he recognizes the occasional necessary drop, agrees with the current law saying that changing it to an individual institution's choice may provide confusion and become unfair to the student.

"I think that particularly for community colleges, students do have some very good reasons for needing to drop a class periodically. There are family situations, many students have their own children or they are taking care of a parent. There are many good reasons for needing to drop classes." He said, "There is in the current law some flexibility. If the institution determines some-

thing, an extenuating circumstance we don't use the rule against the student. House Bill 136 is a concern, to all community colleges. If Kilgore has one rule, TJC has a different rule and TVCC has a different rule how do we reconcile all of that? It wouldn't be fair for the students. They need to be treated the same no matter what community college they attend. There needs to be one consistent rule statewide."

After discussion with other community college provosts, he does not see the law changing.

"I don't see much likelihood of it [HB 136] being passed. I think there is enough flexibility in the current rule and most institutions have not found it to be a hindrance to the student. I like what we have got," Hayes said. "It doesn't seem like there is a lot of support for it. We are still very early in the session so surprises can happen."

Whether the law is causing unnecessary stress on students or pushing them towards their future while maintaining a fiscally-responsible state is unclear up to this point. One thing for sure is that, in the rapidly-approaching future, decisions regarding Senate Bill 1231 will have to be made. To follow this or any bill's path through legislation visit <http://www.legis.state.tx.us/Home.aspx>.

COURSE

continued from page 4

much time that they feel they are going to put into taking college classes.

"If a student needs to come to college as a part-time student while they are juggling multiple responsibilities, I think that it's a responsible decision to make. Taking less classes will eliminate a layer of stress from your life," said Caraway.

Michele Knox, former support service worker and Perkins Data/Grant Coordinator of Adult Student Services, said that she was unsure if TJC offered anything that would help a student with family medical issues.

"I understand that there are different students out there trying to balance a family, school and work, but you have to find the plan that works for you. Whatever works for one might not work for the other. I see the problems from the students who come through my office and I'm willing to help them if I can," said Knox. "It's very important to sit down and talk with that student and seeing what their needs are."

Diego Loya, a sophomore at TJC, recalls seeing situations

where students needed a little extra time due to family issues, adding later that he is willing to help in anyway he can.

"It really doesn't make me feel very good that students don't get the help they need. I wish that there would be more people willing to help, not saying that one person can't do it by themselves, but it's always better when more people are involved," Loya said. "It's what we are all here for, to help."

The Garcia family members are slowly adjusting to the changes in their lives. Claudia thinks of her brother's condition not as a curse, but as a blessing.

"With my brother being sick, it has helped bring my family together making us closer, looking to one another for support," she said. "I believe everything happens for a reason and in life you just have to take it each day at a time. It is the only way I know how to live," said Garcia.

PROGRAMS

continued from page 4

The school has advisory committees to give input and make sure courses are up to date with technology, making it easy for those looking for recertification or training in certain programs.

Over the last couple of years, the Technical and Professional School has grown. Unique programs such as Gaming and Simulation Development, and Surveying and Mapping have attracted students from other areas to TJC.

"We think that we have some offerings that students need and give them the opportunity to really

be successful in a lot of different fields," Allen said. "Whether it be a certificate program, an associate degree program or a transferring for an advance degree, we'd say we're second to none."

ONLINE

continued from page 4

both the classroom and online. Typically, they vary from meeting once a week in the classroom, and the rest of the week being online for course work to be finished meeting in class once a week can give students a chance to get questions answered they had on assignments. Many professors find this a way to get more training to the students.

"By taking an online hybrid course, my students have more opportunity to work on hands-on projects," said Rachel Jennische, Professor of Journalism.

Not everyone has trouble with online courses. Some people are finding that they are easier to manage, because you can access them at anytime during the day, no matter where you are.

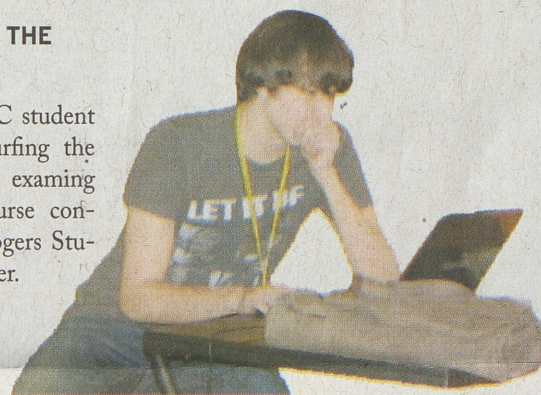
"I think it is very straight forward," said Jose Arias, a freshman at TJC. "I think it's just the way the teachers communicate with you through e-mail and they can't throw any curve balls at you."

Online classes may give you more flexibility and time, but it's not a good idea to just put all of the work off to the last minute. Online classes require discipline and a commitment from the students.

"You have to be more self-disciplined and self-motivated when you do the online courses," said Webb. "When you procrastinate, that's when you get yourself in trouble."

SURFING THE WEB:

A TJC student is seen surfing the web and examining online course content in Rogers Student Center.



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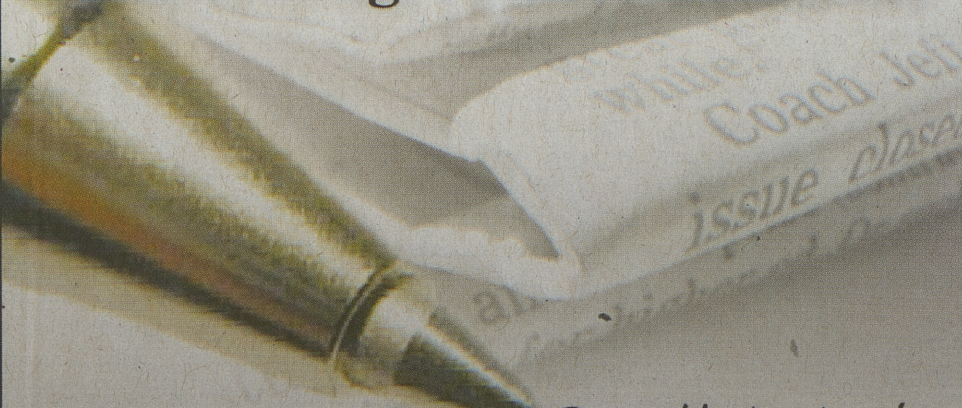
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The Teacher and The Artist



Photo by Christopher Jones

FOLLOW MY LEAD: Professor Philana Oliphant helps a student with his work. Left: Oliphant's painting of a bird hangs in the wise Auditorium Art Gallery.

ARTIST TALK/RECEPTION

Place:
Wise Auditorium Art Gallery

Date and time:
March 3
1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Source: TJC art department

Oliphant shows her drawings at Wise Auditorium

By Christopher Jones
Verve Editor

Some teachers only teach art while others are both a teacher and an artist.

Philana Oliphant is an adjunct professor currently teaching at Tyler Junior College. She teaches drawing 1 and 2, three-dimensional design and online art appreciation.

"She handles a full load. She just hasn't signed the permanent contract yet. I hope she does. We want her as a teacher here. She is a great artist as well as a great teacher," said Derrick White, Art Department Chair.

Having exhibited work nationally and internationally, Oliphant is no stranger to being in the spotlight. She has had work included in several museum collections.

Her latest exhibition "Call of the Coyote", is currently on display at the TJC Wise Auditorium Art Gallery.

"I don't see how you couldn't walk away, no matter what your interests in art are, to walk away and not be thoroughly impressed. She can do things with a pencil and the very basic materials that I've seen very few people do," said Chris Stewart, a professor in the art department.

For the last 20 years, Oliphant has been sharing her knowledge as a teacher in elementary, secondary, college and university levels. She was previously employed at the University of Texas at Tyler.

"She has a very different teaching method and work method than some that have worked here before," said Stewart. "I never had any concern about that. I was interested in how she would adapt to working at TJC, but it is remarkable what she has done with her students."

"I really try to teach them what I know, what I've done through my years of drawing and sculpture," Oliphant said.

Oliphant is not ready to stop being an artist.

"The drawing is an immediate thing I can go to. I have a really busy life, with a family and a job. It allows me to benefit from one of the things I am really interested in which is sound. The

— see OLIPHANT page 7 —

Hip-Hop affects college students' dress, behavior

By Kareña Love
Staff writer

Everyone remembers the first time they heard a hip-hop song. No matter what age a person is, they've encountered hip-hop.

Hip-hop came into the scene on Nov. 12, 1974, as part of a cultural lifestyle that started in the late 1960's.

A Jamaican DJ named Clive Campbell known as Kool Herc, introduced hip-hop music in the Bronx borough of New York City. Hip-hop music is funky and is accompanied by a vocal style which is popularly known as rap along with rhythmic backing beats.

Rap means speaking up rhythmically in rhymes with style. Rap also represents the recording aspects of hip hop. Rap and hip-hop are said by some to have negative influences on the youth of today.

"Well, it's a lot of stereotypical stuff," said Tony McKinney, Tyler Junior College theater major. "What many rappers do kind of adds to the stereotype to all African Americans like guns, shooting and also takes away from those who are trying to get a message out with theirs."

Hip hop has a negative connotation for some because of the contents of the lyrics.

While attracting the audience, which is primarily the younger crowd, there is still a huge controversy about hip-hop rap music. Some believe that the music promotes violence, promiscuity and drug usage. Hip-hop has a wide range of audiences around the world, but when it becomes the influence of the younger generations there are many concerns. There has been professional research done about the influences of hip-hop/rap music. Most of the research was found to have more negative results than positive results.

"I like to listen to it," said Tiarra Jordan, TJC nursing major. "But I do think it has somewhat of a negative effect on particularly the guys [African-American guys]...the way that they carry themselves. Everybody follows them and they don't try to have their own personality. It affects the way they treat the woman."

Researchers have found that hip-hop/rap has influenced more African-American youth than any other race.

— see HIP-HOP page 7 —



Photo by Taylor Belt

More Than Precious Stones

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT: From left to right: Crineshia Mitchell, Breonne Willis and Jasmine Armstrong, members of the Apache Jewlyz, practice in the HPE Center on Feb. 22 to improve their dancing form.

Apache Jewlyz hit the dance scene at TJC

By Taylor Belt
Staff Writer

It's Thursday at 6:30 p.m. and "Glamorous Life" by Sheila E. is blaring out of a small room in the HPE Center. The newest dance team at Tyler Junior College, the Apache Jewlyz, is practicing stand routines hoping to perform them one day.

Although TJC has had a recognized dance team, the Apache Belles, for many years, it doesn't cater to everyone.

"I was actually turned away from the Apache Belles because I was a certain size. I'm 5'5" and I weigh 125 pounds and I had to lose 10 pounds in order to hit the field. I was told to tone my lower body," said Keiaira Burnett.

The average weight for someone who is 5 feet, 5 inches is 117 to 130 pounds.

Sadly, the weight issue was the case for several students who tried out or wanted to become Apache Belles.

"This is another alternative for students who weren't able to dance with the Belles," said Tamika McCullough, coach for the Apache Jewlyz.

The Apache Jewlyz allow all sexes, races, shapes and sizes to join. No one is turned away, if they have what it takes.

"I was actually turned away from the Apache Belles because I was a certain size."

-Keiaira Burnett

"One thing about the Jewlyz is they don't discriminate. If you have the drive, potential and the heart to dance, the Jewlyz will accept you at their tryouts. If you have it then you have it," said Burnett.

Statistics show that 80 percent of women don't like their own appearance. 80 percent of women admitted they feel the need to be perfect.

The Apache Jewlyz would like to change those statistics and be the positive role model for TJC students.

"I think we're going to have a positive affect on TJC because we try to reach out and do everything and give everybody a chance no matter the size, color or shape. We want to give a fair chance," said Burnett.

Some may be skeptical about a new dance team at a school with a squad that's been around for 64 years.

"It is hard being the newest dance

team because we have something to prove on the TJC campus. We have not been able to show what we can do ... but that's all about to change," said founder and captain Breonne Willis.

The Apache Jewlyz are striving to do something different.

"I see the Jewlyz as the official basketball dance team. That was my goal when Rekisha Wade and I founded the team," said Willis.

The Apache Jewlyz would also like to be recognized.

"I would love to see the Apache Jewlyz recognized just as the Apache Belles," said McCullough.

Willis wants to hear from any student who would like to join the Apache Jewlyz.

"If anyone would like to get in touch with me they can see my coaches, Ms. Tamika McCullough in the Registrar's Office or Ms. Starr Holmes in the Academic Advising Office. Also Ms. Kim Harden in the Career Services Office ... you can also talk to me on campus if you see me," said Willis.

The Apache Jewlyz have not yet scheduled tryouts.

HIP-HOP

— continued from page 6 —

Negative song lyrics sometimes portray African American men and woman in negative images.

"The biggest thing I have to say about upcoming artists...invest in yourself. It's going to take time and money if you want to become big. It takes a lot," said Definition DJ Hypnotiq.

There are positive influences of hip-hop music. Those who eat, breathe and sleep hip-hop are artists who want to make it to the top and get noticed by their lyrics. Hip-hop can influence the youth by letting them express their lives and tell stories of their struggles and how they came out those struggles in life.

"It gives them their kind of art," said McK-inney. "I have theater. Many have maybe classical music and others have art and painting and drawing and for these guys they have rap and

poetry."

Hip-hop music is a chance for today's younger generation to have a voice and to show their creativity through music and lyrics. Positive influences through hip-hop music can be from the lyrics of the artists who talk about the struggles of their lives, how they grew up, where they came from and how they made it to the person that they are today.

"But I don't think people should let it influence them too much," said Jordan. "It allows them to be creative. The ones who do use it in a good way express themselves and get the message out in a positive way."

Whether hip-hop is seen as being negative or positive, it will continue to influence future generations.



Photo by Christopher Jones

THE BIRDS: Oliphant uses pencils in a variety of ways to create heavy to light strokes in her art.

OLIPHANT

— continued from page 6 —

sound that the marks make is part of what I really enjoy," Oliphant said. "The bird drawings are based on that sound and those are sort of a meditation."

Oliphant has judged art competitions and has received special recognition in numerous juried competitions.

"I look for sound composition and tech-

nique and content how it's presented. When judging, you can't really apply your own personal taste. As a juror, you have to be open-minded to all forms of work," Oliphant said.

Her exhibition will continue through March 4. There will also be an Artist Talk/ Reception from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on March 3 in the TJC Wise Auditorium Art Gallery.

Free Admission

Wednesday and Thursday,
March 23-24, 2011

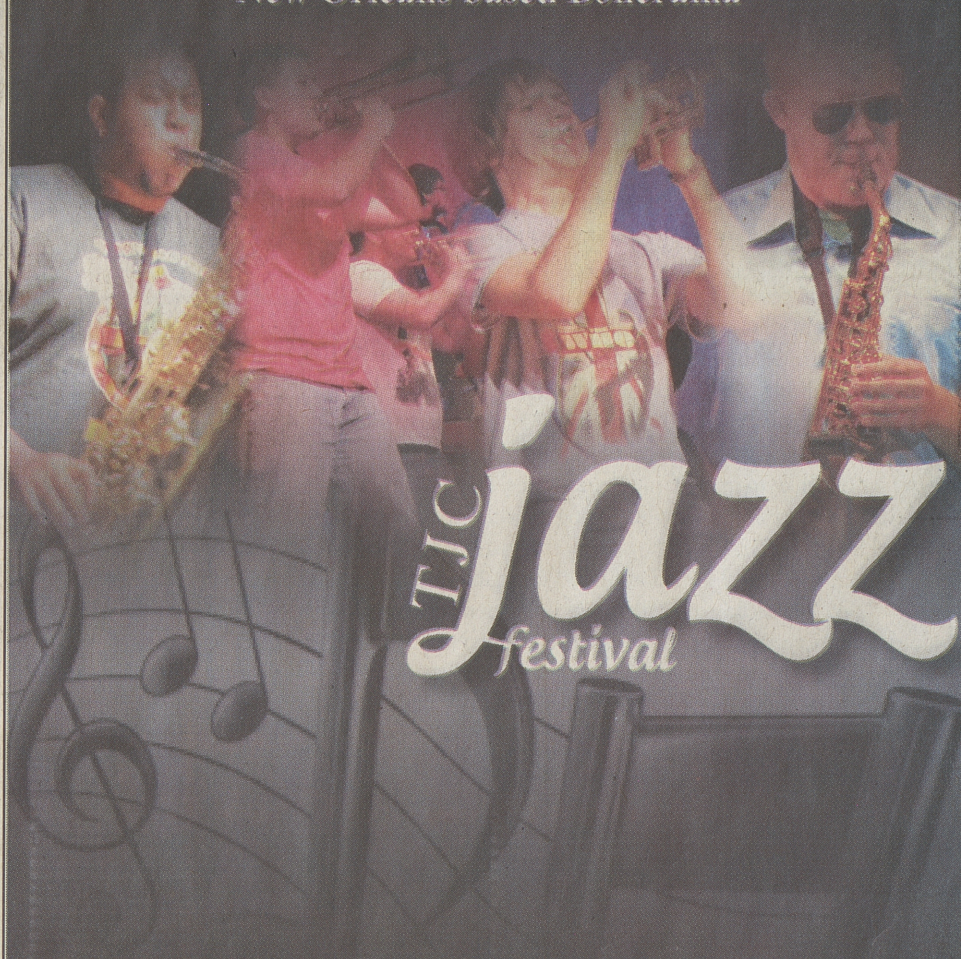
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AROUND THE HORN

Losing is Essential

By Jarah Wright
Associate Editor

Growing up around sports, I observed coaches who shared a similar coaching philosophy: "Winning isn't everything, it's the only thing." Popular culture embraces this philosophy. In the movie "Talladega Nights," the lead character, Ricky Bobby, lives by the phrase, "If you're not first, you're last."

You can learn a lot more about a team and about yourself by losing.

Losing sucks. There's no way around it but everyone experiences it. I was 5 years old when I signed up to play t-ball in Tyler. My dad was the coach of our team, the Pittsburgh Pirates. I was lucky because my dad tried to play everyone the same amount of time and no matter what happened never got angry. During a game one of our player's dads got upset because our team wasn't winning. My dad explained that he was trying to teach us the game and that winning shouldn't be important because we were so young. At the time I didn't understand why losing was bad or what was wrong with it. It wasn't until I was older that I finally got what my dad meant.

Winning seems to be glorified in every aspect but it's not what it's cracked up to be. The media never shows you the downside to winning. They never show you players who used steroids to enhance their performances like Mark McGwire or players who cheat to make sure a team wins, like Pete Rose or the Chicago Black Sox. Winning is the icing on the cake to many Cinderella stories. It may provide the titles and championships but losing provides the character and life lessons.

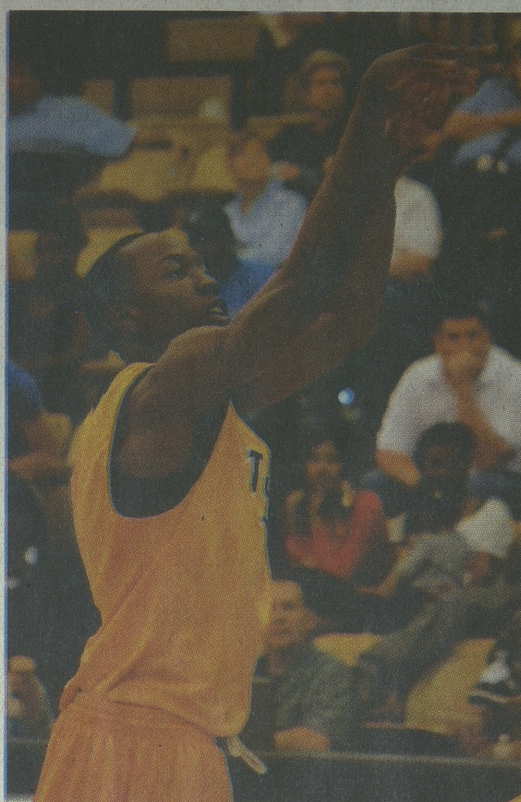
When I was 14, I joined a softball tournament team in Bullard. We practiced really hard and competed in tournaments almost every weekend. We got accustomed to winning and eventually it didn't seem like a big deal. One weekend, we went to a tournament in Fort Worth. On the first day, we won all of our games. However, we lost our first game the second day, which knocked us into the loser's bracket. That tournament was absolutely miserable. The heat index was 107 degrees and we were all getting sunburned no matter how much sunscreen we put on. The rubber spikes on our pitcher's cleats even started to melt. We had to play six games back to back to get to the championship game. We were exhausted but fought through the pain and won first place. That win meant more than any other game we had played. We had to fight through pain and disappointment but were able to dig deep and persevere.

Losing instills drive and determination. It's a "never give up" attitude where anything is possible. I love reading about teams who have come-from-behind victories or had a losing record and turned it around by the end of the season. One of those moments was in 2004 when the Boston Red Sox won the World Series. Up to that point, the franchise hadn't been able to clench the title for over 100 years.

I think it's also more fun to watch the underdog win than the team that wins year after year. The Los Angeles Lakers are expected to win. They've won multiple championships, but would you rather watch the Lakers win another game or watch a team like the Cleveland Cavaliers, who are in the middle of a disappointing season, snap a losing streak and play with heart.

It seems that winning can take away from the game itself. Players become so involved in winning all the time that they forget why they started playing in the first place. By remembering the passion and love for the game, athletes can stay grounded and not let egos get in the way of playing the sport they love.

Go to www.tjcnewspaper.com to read Around the Horn: The Blog.



Photos by Haley Smith

PLAYING WITH HEART: Left: Jaron Johnson shows off his free-throw form during the game against Trinity Valley Community College on Feb. 19. Right: Forward Mitch Marquis quickly passes the ball off as he is surrounded by defenders.



Improving the record

Men's basketball working towards regional tournament

BASKETBALL

By Chris Jones
Contributing Writer

As of Feb. 18, the TJC Apache men's basketball team is riding a solid 18-8 overall record.

TJC started the year with back-to-back conference losses against Trinity Valley Community College and Kilgore College. Since then, they have had wins against Blinn, in a double overtime thriller, Angelina College, Panola College and Paris Junior College while losing to Jacksonville College, San Jacinto and Lon Morris.

"Coming back from Christmas break is tough on any team and we played a really tough schedule when we got back from break," point guard Mitch Marquis said. "We've lost some close games down the stretch so we have been right there in almost every game. Sometimes things just don't go your way."

In the meantime, the Apaches are looking to improve.

"We have committed too many turn-

overs which has caused us to lose some close games that we really could've won," TJC Men's Basketball Coach Mike Marquis said. "All of the teams we play in our conference are really good."

Sophomore forward Malcolm Moore, from Iowa City, Iowa, leads the team in scoring for the second consecutive season averaging 15.8 points per game. Also, he leads the team in rebounding at 7.3 rebounds per game.

"Our post guys have done a really good job of scoring inside and playing through contact every game," Mitch said. "Malcolm, Kader, Alex and Dontae have done a really good job of posting up and being strong down low."

Another forward, freshman Jaron Nash, has been a huge addition to the Apaches on the offensive and defensive ends of the floor.

Nash, a Waterloo, Iowa native, is the second leading scorer for the Apaches with 12 points per game.

His long, lanky figure allows him to be a big presence as a defender and contributor on rebounding.

"I've been getting more used to the system that TJC runs as the season goes

on," Nash said. "We, as a team, want to get better game by game but things are coming along as the games go on."

At this time last year, the Apaches had the same record.

This year after losing three straight games to Jacksonville College, San Jacinto and Lon Morris, the Apaches pulled off two straight wins against Paris Junior College, whom they also defeated 66-60 earlier in the season, and Panola College, whom they also defeated the first time they played them early in the season.

"Things went our way against a really good Paris team and we pulled out a big win at Panola where it is always a tough place to play," Mitch Marquis said.

On the other hand, Region XIV continues to be a very wide-open and competitive conference. All nine spots for the regional tournament in March are up for grabs.

"We won't know how the seeds will be in the tournament till the last week of the season," Coach Marquis said. "The competition has gotten higher as the season has gone on so we have to become more consistent."



Photos by Haley Smith

DRIBBLING TO THE BASKET: Left: Alex Lubsey handles the ball during the Feb. 19 game against Trinity Valley Community College. Above: Tommy Woolridge dribbles past a TVCC defender to drive to the basket.

COMEBACK STORIES

Boston Red Sox

The Boston Red Sox team was founded in 1901. They won the World Series in 1903 but they didn't win the title again until 2004. They overcame injuries and the alleged "Babe Ruth Curse" to end the 101 year drought.

Source: www.bostonredsox.com

Miami Heat

In 2006, the Dallas Mavericks and the Miami Heat made it to the NBA finals. Dallas had a 3-0 series lead and went on to lose 4 straight games making Miami Heat the new NBA champions.

Source: www.miamiheat.com

Men's Basketball

Coached by: Mike Marquis

Feb. 26, 1:00 p.m. @ Lamar State College-Port Arthur

Region XIV Basketball Championships

March 3-7, 2011 @ UT Tyler

Times TBA

Women's Basketball

Coached by Trenia Jones

Feb. 26, 2:00 p.m. @ Blinn College

Baseball

Coached by: Doug Wren

Feb. 26, 12:00 p.m. @ Redlands CC

Feb. 28, 1:00 p.m. @ Bossier Parish CC

March 4, 2:00 p.m. vs. Paris Junior College

March 5, 2:00 p.m. @ Paris Junior College

Golf

Coached by: Sandy Terry

Feb. 28- Mar. 1: Tyler Junior College Tournament, Eagle's Bluff C.C., Bullard, TX

Sports CALENDAR

UPCOMING TJC ATHLETICS: FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2011

GO APACHES!

New changes reflect female equality in TJC sports

By Mollie Jamison
Staff Writer

Tyler Junior College is taking actions to create gender equality in the athletic department.

“To be brutally honest, the sport I would love to start is women’s softball,” said Athletic Director Tim Drain. “There are various factors when you’re deciding what to add and what not to add. The pro’s to starting that sport is that in our region [Region 14] in the NJCAA, goes from Paris all the way down to Laredo. There are about 14 schools that already have softball teams so the schedule would be easy, already made. Softball is a growing sport in this area.”

He said long-term plans are to develop a women’s softball team. Officials have started looking into buy-

ing land for a women’s practice field.

“My philosophy is if you’re going to start it, start it right. We’d have to build it right [next] to Mike Carter Field where the men practice,” said Drain.

The main concern with adding new sports is money.

“The state is making drastic cuts of what they are going to give us funding wise,” said Drain. “There are various ways to find money. One way is by cutting sports to add new ones and I don’t believe in that. I would love to start softball. It’s on the table, but until we know what the state’s going to do, who knows.”

Currently, there are 11 sports offered at Tyler Junior College. Six are male sports and five are female sports.

“It’s okay that guys have more sports. I mean, it’s not like girls can

go and play football,” former high school athlete and current TJC student Dianda Jefferson said.

According to TJC student athlete DeQuean Grandberry, physiques show a difference between male and female athletes.

“Girls have different body parts than a guy,” said Grandberry. “Therefore there are some things a girl’s body can’t take that a guy’s body can. There are other sports out there that a girl can endure to give them an equal opportunity as guys.”

Changes are being made every year to increase the number of opportunities for female athletes. Some changes are big like adding a new sport and others are small changes, such as renovations.

Drain said one reason that Wagstaff Gym was renovated was for gender equality. The women’s vol-

leyball team used to have lockers on one side of the hallway and the restrooms and showers on the other side. Female showers were concealed only by a curtain, which faced the hallway. That hallway was open to the gym and anyone could walk by and see the athletes running across the hall in towels.

For decades female athletes have been fighting to have the same rights as men. Even at TJC, women have not always had equal opportunities.

The law that requires colleges to provide equal opportunities is Title IX. It was passed in 1972. Two years later, in 1974, TJC offered, for the first time, a women’s basketball team. By 1975 they offered scholarships to those women. Since then, female teams have been growing at a rapid pace. Soccer is the newest women’s sport to TJC and they have had sev-

eral successful seasons.

Drain said he would like to develop other new sports, but there are several reasons why it is not good timing. For example, there is only one junior college in Texas with a track team. The team could be invited to meets at four-year universities, but there is a lack of competition. The lack of a location to practice and compete is a major problem. The track at Rose Stadium in Tyler is not a regulation track according to NJCAA.

Drian said that softball is a more logical choice given the circumstances.

“Now if someone came along and donated a track, that would change things,” Drain said.

Slowly schools across the country are balancing out men’s and women’s sports. If TJC creates a softball team, perhaps others will follow suit.

campusSCENE

Circle of Honor

Photo by Haley Smith

HONORING FORMER PLAYERS: During halftime at the TJC men’s basketball game on Feb. 19, the new Circle of Honor inductees were honored. From left to right: Rosie Aldridge Smart, Tommy Sawyer, Bobby Page, Geneva Plunkett (wife of inductee Burl Plunkett), and Acker Hanks. Not pictured is inductee Aubry Shultz.

campusSCENE

Looking for the sign

Photo by Jarah Wright

EYING THE COACH: Freshman catcher Trevor Clifton looks for the sign from Coach Hart Hering to give to pitcher Jason Jester during the game on Feb. 16 against Northeast Texas Community College.

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Sara, Class of 2014

Hometown: San Antonio, Texas

Major: Business Administration

Why I chose Texas A&M University-Commerce:
It gave me the opportunity to do the two things I enjoy the most - learn and play golf.

Favorite Class I've Taken: Macroeconomics

What It's About: Macroeconomics taught me that it is very important to be aware of what is going on in the world, because it affects us individually. I also learned how the economy functions, and how one country's economy can deeply affect other parts of the world.

Best Professor So Far: Dr. Ray Green. I had him for Intro to Psychology. The way he conducted class made it clear that he had a passion for the subject.

Cool Stuff I've Done: I qualified for every golf tournament during the fall season, and achieved a 4.0 GPA in the Honors College.

How A&M-Commerce Changed Me: Ever since I came to college, I think I have become a more mature individual. Being at A&M-Commerce made me realize that if I want to achieve my goals, I need to take responsibility, use my time wisely, and make intelligent decisions.



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WASTED

continued from page 3

"If I [travel] I'm going to lock everything up ... I heard that when there's a big break, people steal," said Brown.

Students have risks of becoming victims of theft both at the place they live and where they are traveling. Johnson and Melton said students need to be careful when choosing their spring break destination.

"You need to think about the risks and safety," said Melton. "Spring Break, obviously, I wouldn't recommend traveling to say Mexico."

According to the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs website, over 100,000 American Spring Breakers travel to Mexico each year. South Padre Island is a hot spot for Texas' spring breakers and a gateway to two border cities, Matamoros and Nuevo Progreso, which are only 30-45 minutes away.

According to the Bureau of Consular Affairs, "travelers to the Mexican border should be especially aware of safety and security concerns due to increased violence in recent years between rival drug trafficking gangs competing

for control of narcotics smuggling routes."

They also caution that "hundreds [of American Spring Breakers] will be arrested".

The Bureau of Consular Affairs encourages international travelers to enroll in its free "Smart Traveler Enrollment Program" (STEP). The program helps the Department of State better assist travelers when they have an emergency. Travelers can also receive updates notifying them of changes in conditions that affect the security of American travelers to the region.

Johnson encourages students to keep their parents informed.

"I know [students] don't want to tell their parents everything but...at least let them know where they're going, what hotel they're at and things of that nature and how they can be reached if they can't reach them on [their] cell phone," Johnson said.

Travelers can enroll in STEP online at <https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/>.

DENTAL

continued from page 3

The difference between coming to visit the regular dentist is that a patient walks in, get assisted and probably comes out in one hour. However, at the TJC clinic, the process of assistance to patients can take up to four hours and the reason for it is because students receive grade qualification as they are providing service to the patient.

"I'm very pleased with their service. The timing process is a little bit longer than a regular visit to the dentist but I definitely have to say that the time waiting is worth it," said Martha Watkins.

For students thinking about majoring in the dental hygiene career, they can receive an Associate in in Dental Hygiene at Tyler Junior College. The sessions begin in the fall each year, but students must be admitted to the program. The capacity for students admitted is 24 students each year. It takes four semesters upon completion to receive the degree. The Tyler Junior College Hygiene Department of Dental Hygiene is accredited by the

American Association Commission on Dental Accreditation under the following status: "approval without reporting requirements."

This semester, the dental hygiene students are providing a fundraiser and anyone can stop by the clinic to purchase white strips for \$35 That is over 60 percent savings compared to any other clinic. Purchases can be made Monday-Friday at the clinic office on campus.



Photo by Stacey Gonzalez

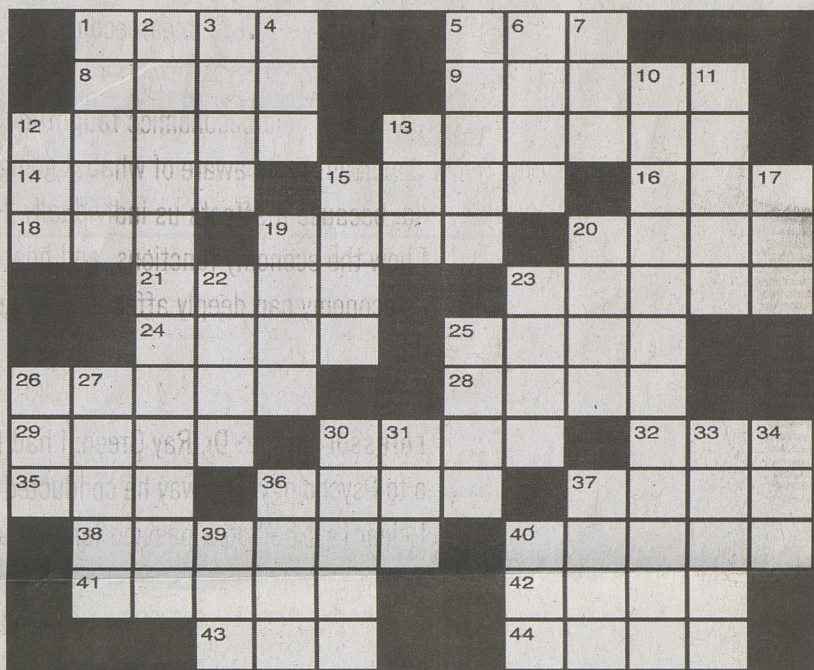
CLEANING THE TEETH: Candice Sowell practices dental cleansing with Lindsey Thimet. She followed the steps according to what she learned in the Dental Hygiene program at Tyler Junior College.

Questions? Comments? Concerns?
Post a comment on tjcnewspaper.com.

FOR RELEASE OCTOBER 24, 2010

THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



10/24/10

ACROSS

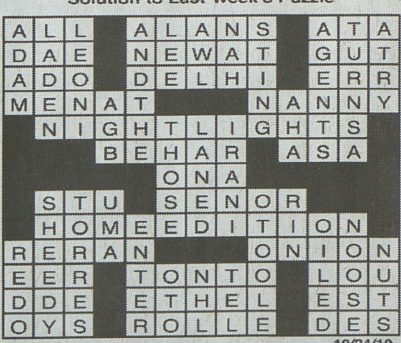
- 1 "Dharma & "
- 5 Part of speech: abbr.
- 8 Wander
- 9 HLN's "Nancy "
- 12 " Pyle, U.S.M.C."
- 13 Ted of "The Mary Tyler Moore Show"
- 14 "Tonight Starring Jack "; early ancestor of "The Tonight Show With Jay Leno"
- 15 Wrangler or Grand Cherokee
- 16 Cry of discovery
- 18 Actress Jillian
- 19 Stiller and Vereen
- 20 "The Price Is Right" host
- 21 " '70s Show"
- 23 Actress Berry
- 24 Carmichael and McKellen
- 25 Actress Spelling
- 26 Sister of Desi Arnaz Jr.
- 28 Johnson of "Laugh-In"
- 29 On with; equivalent to
- 30 " City"; Michael J. Fox series
- 32 Jacuzzi
- 35 Radar's title on "M*A*S*H": abbr.

- 36 over; faint
- 37 Donahue or Hartman
- 38 Role on "Seinfeld"
- 40 Guinness and Baldwin
- 41 " Hope"; daytime serial of yesteryear
- 42 Onion's cousin
- 43 Grow old
- 44 Oscillating blowers

DOWN

- 1 Response to a corny joke
- 2 " Challenged"
- 3 "Unhappily After"
- 4 European lang.
- 5 Actress Moorehead
- 6 Faucet problem
- 7 Drama series for David James Elliott
- 10 Actor on "Two and a Half Men"
- 11 Role on "I Love Lucy"
- 12 Transcript abbr.
- 13 Actor Berry of "Mama's Family"
- 15 New York football team
- 17 Reverent wonder
- 19 Detriment; curse
- 20 Move suddenly
- 22 Long-running Broadway musical
- 23 Brass instrument
- 25 "An American "; animated film about Fievel
- 26 Fond du , Wisconsin
- 27 case letters; capitals
- 30 "The Sixth "; Haley Joel Osment movie
- 31 -wee Herman
- 33 Selects
- 34 Pacino and Gore
- 36 "The of Queens"
- 37 "Guilty" or "Not guilty"
- 39 Battery size
- 40 Sitcom about the Tanner family and their alien visitor

Solution to Last Week's Puzzle



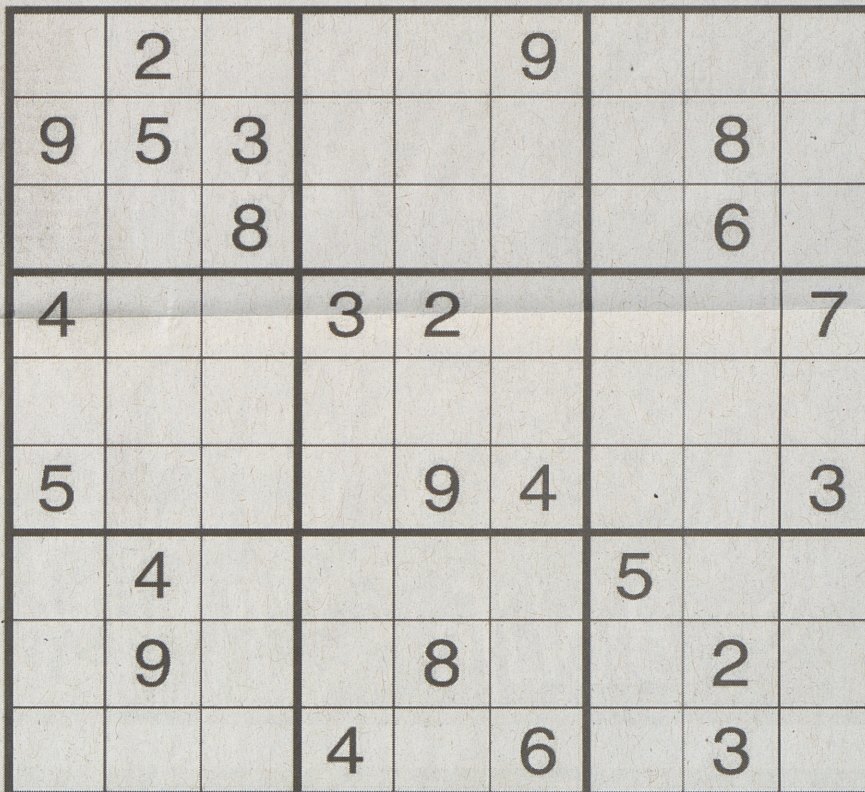
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10/24/10

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4



SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

12/12/10

1	5	3	4	2	6	8	9	7
6	8	7	9	5	3	1	4	2
9	4	2	8	7	1	6	5	3
5	2	8	6	1	9	3	7	4
7	3	6	2	8	4	9	1	5
4	9	1	5	3	7	2	8	6
2	6	5	1	4	8	7	3	9
3	1	9	7	6	5	4	2	8
8	7	4	3	9	2	5	6	1

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

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WEB

continued from page 1

“It’s always a scramble,” said Groth. “For example, we like to get lineup cards from the coaches as early as possible. Sometimes it’s hard because the coaches don’t know who they’ll play until after the team warms up and by the time we get the lineups, it’s almost time to go on air.”

Despite the challenges, Groth said he enjoys broadcasting. “Broadcasting is something that has always been on the back burner for me,” he said. “I did some games for Texas A&M when I was the assistant coach there. I liked it and it was fun. When I decided to step down from coaching at TJC the broadcasting opportunity came my way and it seemed like the right fit for me.”

The athletic department also has live stats for baseball games.

“Live stats are another avenue for online viewers to keep up with our games,” said Head Baseball Coach Doug Wren. “We can’t webcast every game and this software allows the viewers to keep up with the play by play.”

At www.apacheathletics.com, the live stats site shows everything one would want to know. Team managers log in what is happening, which could be anything from the pitch count to lineups. As the game unfolds, the site is updated.

Sometimes there are technical glitches but even then all of

the stats end up posted.

“We went to Redlands Community College in Oklahoma for a game and the computer crashed,” said Wren. “On the six-hour bus ride home, we went through the book kept during the game and then put all of that information into the live stats software.”

Live stats and webcasts are growing in popularity and getting hits from around the world.

“It’s cool that we’re getting hits internationally,” said Smith. “We get hits anywhere from South America to Europe.”

Webcasts typically get anywhere from 40 to 100 hits per game, but depending on the game, those numbers increase.

“It depends on what type of game. If it’s a regular season game, we get around 40 hits. During the national soccer tournament, we got 400 hits for a single broadcast,” said Smith.

One benefit that comes from webcasting is access. Player’s families who don’t live in Tyler can hear the games and keep up with how their son or daughter is playing.

“Webcasts give our parents an opportunity to follow along,” said Wren. “Plus our games are typically during weekdays so it’s hard for parents to get off work. But they can have the webcasts in the background and keep up with the games.”

Webcasts also provide opportunities to promote TJC in the form of commercials.

“I can go to Vincent [Nguyen, director of Student Life and Involvement] and let him know we need a 30-second or minute spot. An organization like Phi Theta Kappa will come in and we record a spot to play during breaks in the webcast,” said Smith.

With the success of webcasting, video webcasting is beginning to look like a possibility.

“Webcasting and live stats provide the best of both worlds. Video webcasting is the next step,” said Wren. “There are several NCAA II programs that have it right now.”

“UT-Tyler has video webcasting,” said Groth. “They have three to four cameras set up around their field and it streams online.”

Previous webcasts are also archived for future listening. They may be purchased for listening for \$1. This money is used to help cover costs, such as a yearly site fee, associated with the webcasts.

Webcasts as well as live stats may be accessed through the top right corner of the athletic department home page.

Budget

continued from page 1

The state funds go to instructional costs, which involves anything that has to do with teaching and instruction.

“In our case where our programs are full, we’ve already reduced some of our programs that weren’t as strong so everything we have right now is viable and full,” Metke said. “So if we continue to get cut then it gets really, really difficult.”

According to Metke, if not handled correctly, the two-year problem could become a much longer process.

“I think we’ve got a two-year problem and the real danger is that we’re going to make bad decisions that are going to harm the mission of the college three, four, five, 10 years after,” Metke said. “So the decision, we make for the next two years are really critical so that we make temporary savings but we don’t do any long-term harm.”

“It’s like a hurricane is out there and we’re tracking it.”

-Dr. Mike Metke
President of Tyler Junior College

According to Provost Dr. Butch Hayes, to deal with the budget cuts classes may have to increase in size.

“We may have to, an option, spread the classes out and put more students in the classes,” Hayes said. “That would be a direct impact students would feel and the faculty would feel too, so we’ll have to come up with better strategies of helping people in large classes.”

According to Metke, the next step they’ll have to take is closing programs.

“We’re having to make judgments about programs and, you know, it’s a little bit like the movie Sophie’s Choice where she had to give up one of her children,” Metke said. “You start to feel like which of my children is not important or whose future is not important.”

When deciding on which programs to cut, the administration will be looking at many points including which fields have higher wage rates and stronger job prospects.

“The real danger is that we’ll make decisions that will harm the college way into the future,” Metke said. “Once you close a program it never comes back.”

According to Metke in 1980, 80 percent of the cost of running TJC was funded by the state. This year the state funding covers about 23 percent.

“That 23 percent is all the instructional funding and if we lose that it directly impacts our teaching/learning funding,” Metke said. “It comes from the state, so even though it’s 23 percent of our budget it’s the heart of the institution.”

According to Metke, the administration has already made money-saving steps like not buying new computers, setting up new labs or having faculty travel as much.

“Frankly I don’t see how we can keep the enrollment where it is with the kinds of cuts we’re seeing right now,” Metke said. “Those aren’t just cuts of direct funding. There’s also a lot of indirect money that we get.”

Some indirect funding that TJC receives is for the databases in the library and funding for job training grants are from different agencies and state sources whose funding will also get reduced.

“It’s like a hurricane is out there and we’re tracking it,” Metke said. “From day to day that varies so these aren’t the final budgets but it’s very troublesome.”

According to Metke, enrollment is up while funding is down.

“I think they’ve talked about somewhere in the neighborhood an overall 30 percent cut in funding and a 20 percent overall state increase in the community college enrollment,” Metke said.

The administration is currently looking into what changes they might have to make with the huge budget cuts.

“You know we’re starting to look at program reviews and such,” Metke said. “We plan to pull focus groups from all the different employee groups together and try to brainstorm best ideas. That’s going to happen in the next, probably, three weeks where we’ll get employees from different employee groups together and ask them for their best ideas.”

According to Hayes, Texas has never seen a budget cut this drastic.

“The best words that I can give everyone right now is that it’s still preliminary,” Hayes said. “We know the cuts seem to be more drastic than they have ever been in the past...We’ve never seen anything like this. It will impact how we deliver instruction probably. Probably, I want to underscore that word because with less money you can’t do what we’ve been doing.”

It could be as late as the end of August until the college gets the finalized state budget cuts and it is expected that many special sessions will be called.

“We don’t want to say the sky is falling but it’s pretty darn scary, like a meteorite heading right towards the planet here and we hope it doesn’t strike,” Metke said. “It’s very early, but we know that the state has a huge deficit; we know that we have to do our part.”

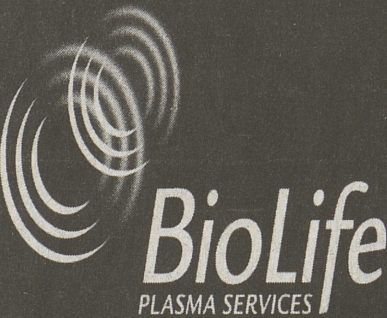
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